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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Christine Sherwood
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Appl No. : 10/622,213 Confirmation No. 4675
Applicant : Carlos Duarte, et al.
Filed : July 18, 2003
Title : UPRIGHT HINGE FOR SPA COVER

TC/A.U. : 3751
Examiner : Khoa D. Huynh

Docket No. : 50228/MEG/F314
Customer No. : 23363

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068
Pasadena, CA 91109-7068
December 29, 2004

Commissioner:

This is in response to the Office action mailed November 29, 2004.

On page 2 of the Office action, the Examiner states that restriction to one of the following species and one of the following subspecies is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Species I (as depicted in Fig. 1).
- II. Species II (as depicted in Fig. 9).
 - A. Subspecies A (as depicted in Fig. 2).
 - B. Subspecies B (as depicted in Fig. 3).

Appln No. 10/622,213

Amdt date December 29, 2004

Reply to Office action of November 29, 2004

Applicant elects Species I (as depicted in Fig. 1) and Subspecies B (as depicted in Fig. 3) for further prosecution on the merits.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8-23 are readable on species I, subspecies B.

Consideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
CHRISTIE, PARKER & HALE, LLP

By Mark Garscia
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626/795-9900

MEG/cks

CKS PAS599433.1--12/29/04 10:23 AM